



December 8, 2015

MR. PATRICK REHKAMP  
SUITE 900  
223 WEST JACKSON  
CHICAGO, IL 60603

FOIPA Request No.: 1336871-000  
Subject: STRANCZEK, CHESTER

Dear Mr. Rehkamp:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Explanation of Exemptions:

**Section 552**

☐ (b)(1)

☐ (b)(2)

☐ (b)(3)

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☐ (b)(4)

☐ (b)(5)

☒ (b)(6)

☐ (b)(7)(A)

☐ (b)(7)(B)

☒ (b)(7)(C)

☐ (b)(7)(D)

☐ (b)(7)(E)

☐ (b)(7)(F)

☐ (b)(8)

☐ (b)(9)

**Section 552a**

☐ (d)(5)

☐ (j)(2)

☐ (k)(1)

☐ (k)(2)

☐ (k)(3)

☐ (k)(4)

☐ (k)(5)

☐ (k)(6)

☐ (k)(7)

7 pages were reviewed and 7 pages are being released.

☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning, other Government Agency (ies) [OGA].

☐ This information has been referred to the OGA(s) for review and direct response to you.

☐ We are consulting with another agency. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is completed.

☒ In accordance with standard FBI practice and pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552/552a (b)(7)(E)/(j)(2)], this response neither confirms nor denies the existence of your subject's name on any watch lists.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Explanation of Exemptions.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request. Your patience is appreciated.

You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office Information Policy (OIP), U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's eFOIA portal at <http://www.justice.gov/oip/efoia-portal.html>. Your appeal must be received by OIP within sixty (60) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

☐ The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s). If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

☒ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely,



David M. Hardy  
Section Chief  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Records Management Division

Enclosures (2)

In response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted to the Records Management Division in Winchester, VA, enclosed is a processed copy of FBI Headquarters file 194-HQ-269.

The material contained in FBI Headquarters file 194-HQ-269 represents the final release of information regarding your FOIA request.

Your request for a fee waiver cannot be adjudicated as there are no applicable fees.

This material is being provided to you at no charge.

## EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information ( A ) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, ( B ) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, ( C ) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, ( D ) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, ( E ) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or ( F ) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☒ Airtel

## PRECEDENCE:

☒ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ E F T O  
☐ CLEAR

Date 9/6/78

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (194-113) (P) (inactive) (Sq. 17)

SUBJECT: CHANGED  
CHESTER STRANCZEK,  
MAYOR OF CRESTWOOD, ILLINOIS  
HOBBS ACT - CPO  
OO: CHICAGO

Title is changed interoffice. The title of this case is changed to reflect the correct spelling of STRANCZEK.

On 8/17/78, [redacted] of Turnpike Construction Company, 12233 South Crawford Avenue, Alsip, Illinois, reported that in March, 1977, he purchased six lots in Crestwood, Illinois, out of a land trust for \$84,000.00. His purpose was to erect apartment buildings on the land. In January, 1977, he had arranged to buy the same land from real estate broker [redacted] for \$72,000.00. In February, 1977, another real estate broker, RONALD RICHMOND, approached [redacted] and related that the land would never be re-zoned for multi-family dwellings, unless the land was purchased through him at the additional cost. [redacted] later told [redacted] that the Crestwood Mayor, CHESTER STRANCZEK, told him he would never sell another piece of property in his town. [redacted] suggested that [redacted] buy the property through another broker. [redacted] subsequently bought the property through RICHMOND. It is [redacted] belief that STRANCZEK is a partner in a land trust from which he purchased the property.

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b7C

② Bureau  
1 - Chicago  
CRD/cep  
(3)

DE-24

V-52

REC-123

194-264-1

17 SEP 11 1978

Approved: [Signature]

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per [Signature]

61 OCT 10 1978

236

1977 (1) - 225-539

On 8/21/78, this case was discussed with AUSA [redacted]. It was her opinion that a HOBBS ACT - EXTORTION did exist and she requested that additional investigation be conducted.

This case is pending inactive until 10/15/78, at the request of [redacted] and with the concurrence of [redacted]. By this time, [redacted] expects to have completed his construction and have turned the buildings over to their owners. Investigation will continue in Chicago, after 10/15/78.



FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☒ Airtel

## PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ E F T O  
☐ CLEAR

Date 1/26/79

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (194-113)(CP)  
 SUBJECT: CHESTER STRANCZEK  
 MAYOR OF CRESTWOOD  
 CRESTWOOD, ILLINOIS  
 HOBBS ACT - CORRUPTION OF  
 PUBLIC OFFICIALS

OO: CHICAGO

Re Chicago airtel to the Bureau dated 10/15/78.

As the Bureau is aware, this case involves allegations by a Crestwood, Illinois developer, that he, the developer, was forced to pay a premium to purchase property that he intended to develop; that the land was partially owned by the subject; and that for this additional money, the subject arranged to rezone the property.

AUSA [ ] USA's Office, Chicago, advised that the facts of this matter indicate that a Hobbs Act violation did exist and she requested additional investigation. On 12/18/78, the USA's Office, Chicago, advised that AUSA [ ] was then on maternity leave; that she should be returning to work during the middle part of 1/79; and that her cases were not being reassigned to another Assistant. On 1/24/79, the facts of this matter were presented to AUSA [ ] USA's Office, Chicago, in view of the fact that AUSA [ ] continued to remain on maternity leave.

2 - Bureau  
 2 - Chicago

RBS/dlf  
 (4)

62 MAR 2 1979

Approved: *[Signature]*

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

CG 194-113

not expected to return until the middle of February, 1979.  
AUSA [ ] advised that in view of AUSA [ ] anticipated  
return, he would not render a prosecutive opinion.

In view of the above, Chicago is not submitting  
an LHM at this time, but will do so upon the return of  
AUSA [ ]

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# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 4/18/79

FROM : *leg/k1* SAC, CHICAGO (194-113) (C)SUBJECT: CHESTER STRANCZEK  
MAYOR OF CRESTWOOD-  
~~CRESTWOOD, ILLINOIS~~  
HOBBS ACT - CORRUPTION OF  
PUBLIC OFFICIALS (D)  
*nyc*

OO: CHICAGO

Re Chicago airtel to the Bureau dated  
1/26/79.Enclosed for the Bureau are three (3)  
copies of an LHM dated and captioned as above.In view of the opinion of AUSA   
USA's Office, Chicago, Illinois, the Chicago Division  
is conducting no further investigation in this matter.b6  
b7c

*Photo*

CC TO: <i>FDIC</i>
REQ. REC'D <i>4/11/83</i>
MAY 1983
ANS. BY: <i>mg/mm</i>

EX-106

REC-121

*194-269-3**ENCLOSURE*

9 APR 25 1979

2 - Bureau (Encl. 3)  
1 - ChicagoRBS/dlf  
(3)*2cc - Criminal Division, DOJ*  
*Public Integrity Section*  
*5/2/79 - WES/pwt*

MAY 3 1979





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

219 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois  
April 18, 1979

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

CHESTER STRANCZEK  
MAYOR OF CRESTWOOD  
CRESTWOOD, ILLINOIS  
HOBBS ACT - CORRUPTION  
OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS (D)

On August 17, 1978, [redacted] a developer in Crestwood, Illinois, alleged that he was forced to pay a \$12,000.00 premium to purchase land in Crestwood that he intended to develop. He alleged the land was owned in part by the Mayor of Crestwood, Chester Stranczek, and that a real estate agent, Ronald Richmond, on behalf of Stranczek, told him, [redacted] that unless the land was purchased through Richmond, at the additional premium, the land would not be rezoned.

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On August 21, 1978, Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) [redacted] USA's Office, Chicago, Illinois, advised that it was her opinion that a Hobbs Act violation might exist and she requested additional investigation.

Investigation was conducted including interviews of Richmond, his real estate agent who was present during the conversation between [redacted] Richmond, and with a realtor who handled the property in question prior to Richmond becoming the agent for the sale. No corroboration of [redacted] allegations was obtained and in fact, Richmond and his real estate agent denied the alleged statements were made. Examination of related documents also failed to establish corroboration of [redacted] allegations.

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This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

194-269-3

ENCLOSURE

CHESTER STRANCZEK

On February 12, 1979, AUSA [ ] advised that it was her opinion that the available evidence does not indicate that a Hobbs Act violation exists; however, she requested that results of investigation be forwarded to her for review to determine whether there may be another Federal violation involved, or whether the matter should be referred to the Internal Revenue Service.

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On February 21, 1979, the results of the investigation conducted to date were furnished to AUSA [ ] by letter.

On April 13, 1979, AUSA [ ] advised that her office would decline prosecution in this matter. It was her opinion that there was no corroboration of [ ] allegations and that the facts do not indicate [ ] would be a credible witness. Accordingly, she felt that all the available facts would not support a Hobbs Act indictment. She advised that additional investigation by the FBI would not be required at this time.

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b7C